

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

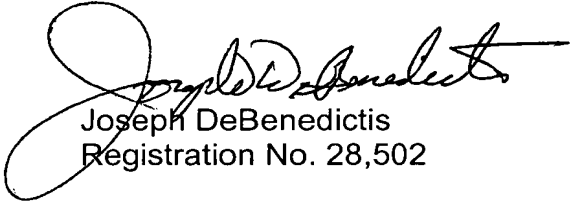
The present amendment changes the transition phrase of claim 51 from "consisting essentially of" to "comprising". The transition phrase "consisting essentially of" is not necessary in view of the proviso of claim 51 which requires that the manganese complex or salt thereof is the only contrast agent administered in the method. Moreover, the present use of the transition term "comprising" is consistent with the same transition phrase used in claim 64.

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Respectfully submitted,



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